

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 /087 W

-----057566 051529Z /45

R 051331Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9621

INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJECT: LIBYAN/CHAD DISPUTE

SUMMARY: CHADIAN PRESIDENT MALLOUM CHARGED LIBYA WITH AGGRESSION AND IMPERIALISM AT JULY 4 OAU SUMMIT. FOLLOWING LIBYAN REBUTTAL, SUMMIT CREATED AD HOC COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND REPORT ON DISPUTE. END SUMMARY.

1. LIBYAN/CHAD DISPUTE WAS MOVED FORWARD ON AGENDA AND THUS BECOME FIRST CONTROVERSIAL QUESTION ADDRESSED BY SUMMIT JULY 4.

2. OPENING DEBATE ON THIS ISSUE, PRESIDENT MALLOUM OF CHAD CONDEMNED LIBYANS FOR VIOLATING CHAD'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY, COMMITTING AGGRESSION, AND OCCUPYING AOZOU STRIP. HE CHARGE LIBYANS HAD FORCEEE INHABITANTS TO CARRY LIBYAN ID CARDS AND THAT ADMINISTRATION OF AREA WAS BEING PROGRESSIVELY TAKEN OVER BY LIBYAN OFFICIALS. FURTHER, MALLOUM SAID, WHILE LIBYANS WERE NEGOTIATING IN NDJAMENA AT END OF JUNE ADN STILL " AT THIS VERY MOMENT," LIBYAN EQUIPPED FORCES WERE ATTACKING TOWNS WITHIN CHAD.

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3. PRESIDENT TRACED HISTORY OF AOZOU STRIP AND LIBYAN-CHAD BORDER, STATED LIBYA HAD NO VALID LEGAL CLAIMS, AND ASKED WHY LIBYA HAD ONLY ASSERTED CLAIM TO AREA SINCE 1973. HE STATED CLEAR DANGER EXISTED TO PEACE AND STABILITY FROMOVERARMED LIBYA AND LIBYAN-PAID MERCENARIES, AND THAT PRESENT DANGER JUSTIFIED NEW CHADIAN ARMS PRUCHASES. MALLOUM APPEALED FOR AID TO HELP CHAD RECOVER

ITS RIGHTS AND PUT END TO AGGRESSION.

4. MALLOUM OPENLY ASKED RHETORIAL QUESTION WHETHER PRESIDENT OF LIBYA COULD BE CONSIDERED AFRICAN WHEN HE FOMENTED DISSENSION AND SUBVERSION IN OTHER AFRICAN STATES AND PRACTICED NEW FORM OF HATED IMPERIALISM IN AFRICA FINANCED BY PETRODOLLARS WITH INTENT OF SUBJUGATING AFRICAN COUNTRIES. MALLOUM CLOSED SPEECH BY ASKING FOR WHOM AND IN WHOSE INTEREST LIBYAN PRESIDENT WAS ACTING, SINCE HE WAS NOT ACTING FOR PEOPLE OF LIBYA OR AFRICA.

5. DETAILS OF LIBYAN REBUTTAL NOT YET KNOWN, BUT OAU ASSTSEC GEN ONU IMPLIED IN PRESS BRIEFING THAT LIBYAN REPLY FOLLOWED SAME LINE AS THEIR REBUTTAL IN MINISTERIAL (LIBREVILLE 1644).

6. FOLLOWING MALLOUM ATTACK AND LIBYAN REPLY, SUMMIT ESTABLISHED AD HOC COMMITTEE COMPOSED OF SENEGAL, ALGERIA, NIGERIA, MOZAMBIQUE, GABON AND POSSIBLY CAMEROON TO STUDY AND REPORT ON MATTER. (COMMENT: NO INFORMATION YET AVAILABLE ON EXPECTED TIMETABLE FOR COMMITTEE ACTION.) STEIGMAN

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## Message Attributes

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